# CONTRACTOR District 3

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## SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAYS

Now that we are officially in the "holiday season" it is important to remember that criminal activity, especially property crimes, tend to increase during this time of year. The reasons for this are varied. Many of us are purchasing gifts, going out with family and friends and entertaining relatives from out of state. We spend time at local shopping centers that are more crowded during the holidays and we carry larger sums of money. With this in mind, I put together a list of things to consider this holiday season to keep you and your belongings safe.

## **HOME SAFETY**

- Be extra cautious about locking doors and windows anytime you leave your home.
- Do not display gifts where they can be seen from a window or doorway.
- Use lights on timers if you are going to be gone for an extended period of time.
- Once your gifts are opened make sure you break down the boxes so you don't advertise the new items you have in your home.
- Make sure visiting relatives remove items from their cars like golf clubs, presents etc.

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## MESSAGE FROM COMMANDER DUGGAN



In keeping with our goals to prevent crime and promote community partnerships with our citizens, District 3 personnel hand delivered crime prevention brochures to residents in a variety of neighborhoods to inform them there has been an increase in property crimes (auto thefts, residential and vehicle burglaries) in their area. The brochure features a home security survey and practical advice for keeping yourself and your property safe.

Although your community is one of the safest places in which to live and work in Scottsdale, sometimes our sense of security works against us. Since January, the majority of burglaries in our District were unforced, and many of these were from open garages. This means that most burglaries are easily preventable. Many thefts and burglaries are crimes of opportunity that can be avoided if we take basic crime prevention measures such as closing garage doors and locking vehicles. Even though we live in a safe community, we still need to be vigilant and take basic precautions.

If you would like a copy of the new crime prevention brochure, please contact Crime Prevention Officer Eric Williams at (480) 312-8802 or <a href="mailto:eawilliams@scottsdaleaz.gov">eawilliams@scottsdaleaz.gov</a>

On behalf of all the men and women who serve the District 3 community, we wish you and your family a safe and happy holiday season.

Sean Duggan District 3 Commander Scottsdale Police Department

## Fast Facts



There is a significant increase in fraudulent charities in operation during the holidays. Please make sure you know whom you are giving your money to.



## SAFE HOLIDAYS (CONTINUED)

## **SHOPPING SAFETY**

- Shop before dark if possible.
- If shopping at night, park in a well lit area.
- Shop with friends and family members.
- Avoid carrying large sums of money. Pay for purchases with a check, debit or credit card.
- Be very careful with purses and wallets. Try to keep everything in your pockets.
- After making your purchases make sure you secure them in your trunk. If you don't have a trunk (SUV) then make sure they are placed under seats or at least out of view of a person walking by your vehicle.

## TRAVEL SAFETY

- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash; instead take travelers checks, debit or credit cards.
- Make sure your car is in good running condition. Check tire inflation and tread condition, all lights, windshield wipers and fluid levels.
- Make sure you have a working and fully charged cell phone.
- Share your travel itinerary with the people you are visiting and have them contact you during your trip.
- If you stay at a hotel overnight remove all your valuables from your vehicle.

## **DID YOU KNOW?**



Just a few drinks consumed in less than an hour can put you over the .08 Blood Alcohol Concentration (BAC) limit. Please use caution this holiday season when consuming alcoholic beverages. Try to limit your drinks to one an hour and always have a designated driver available if you feel you've had too much to drink.



Ensuring traffic safety on Pima
Road is a top priority for District 3
personnel. District based officers
issued over 400 citations along the
Pima corridor in November. Officers
will maintain a high visibility in the
area and will continue to enforce
traffic violations. Please do your
part by observing the posted speed
limit and avoiding distractions when
driving.

## **CRIME TREND**

We are continuing to experience unforced residential and vehicle burglaries in District 3 neighborhoods. Thieves are targeting open garage doors and unlocked vehicles that have valuables in plain view. Please remove any valuables from your car and keep those garage doors closed.



## MARICOPA COUNTY ANIMAL CARE & CONTROL REMINDS YOU TO KEEP YOUR PETS SAFE DURING THE HOLIDAY SEASON

(Phoenix)- Maricopa County Animal Care & Control offers the following pet tips to ensure that your pet stays safe, healthy and happy during the holiday season:

## DO NOT

- Overfeed them
- Feed them candy and chocolate
- Give them turkey bones
- Ignore them.
- Give them tinsel or other decorations to play with
- Give a pet as a gift

### DO

- Buy them a gift too. Specially made dog/cat toys and treats work best.
- Shower them with love and attention by taking them for a walk on a leash.
- Buy them a dog license and a new collar to keep them identified in case he gets lost.
- Consider adopting them a playmate once the holiday season is over. Make it a family event.
- Buy a lonely person an Animal Care & Control gift certificate.
- Keep them inside and secure from open doors, crowds, and unfamiliar people.



## THE SCOTTSDALE POLICE DEPARTMENT

IS LOOKING FOR A FEW GOOD MEN AND WOMEN TO BECOME SCOTTSDALE POLICE OFFICERS. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN AN EXCITING AND REWARDING CAREER PLEASE CONTACT, OFFICER GREG CARLIN AT (480) 312-5384 OR AT gcarlin@scottsdaleaz.gov

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS



## **ELECTRONICS RECYCLING DAY**

SATURDAY DECEMBER 4 7:30AM TO 2:00PM CORPORATION YARD 9191 E. SAN SALVADOR

## **ULTIMATE BLOCK PARTY**

FRIDAY DECEMBER 31 STETSON AND FIFTH AVE FAMILY FESTIVITIES BEGIN AT 10:00AM, 21 AND OVER AFTER 5:00PM



## **Scottsdale Police Department**

## 2005 Calendars Now Available

Be one of the first to get your copy of the new 2005 Scottsdale Police Department's Calendar. The cost is only \$5.00 per calendar, and the proceeds raised from the calendar sales will benefit Scottsdale Police Department's Youth Programs.

Calendars are ready for purchase, and are expected to sell out quickly. Order several while supplies last. *They make great gifts!* 

To order: Contact Chris Vassall at (480) 312-5050 or cvassall@scottsdaleaz.gov

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